

Customer No. 25280

Case No. 5389

Amendments to the Claims

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A tufted carpet having reduced shrinkage, said carpet comprising:

- (a) at least one a pile layer and
- (b) at least one backing layer,
- (c) wherein said pile layer comprises fibers tufted into said backing layer, further wherein said at least one backing layer of said tufted carpet consists essentially of comprises a plurality of polypropylene tape fibers forming said backing layer;
- (d) further wherein at least one of said polypropylene tape fibers comprise from about 10 ppm to about 800 ppm of a nucleator compound, and
- (e) said polypropylene tape fibers exhibiting a tensile strength of at least about 3 grams/denier;
- (f) further wherein said polypropylene tape fibers exhibit a shrinkage rate after exposure to 150°C hot air of less than about 2%.

5. (Previously Presented) The carpet of Claim 4 wherein said nucleator compound is selected from the group consisting of p-MDBS, 3,4-DMDBS, 2,4,5-TMDBS, DBS, NA-11, NA-21, and any mixtures thereof.

6. (Original) The carpet of Claim 5 wherein said nucleating agent is p-MDBS.

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7. (Currently Amended): A tufted carpet having reduced shrinkage comprising at least a pile layer and at least one backing layer, said pile layer having fibers tufted into said backing layer, wherein said at least one backing layer consists essentially of ~~is constructed, at least in part,~~ with a plurality of polypropylene tape fibers, wherein said at least one of said polypropylene tape fibers comprises between about 10 ppm to about 800 ppm of a nucleator compound, and wherein said at least one polypropylene tape fiber exhibits a shrinkage rate after exposure to 150°C hot air of less than about 2%, and a tensile strength of greater than about 2.5 grams/denier.

8. (Previously Presented) The carpet of Claim 7 wherein said nucleator compound is selected from the group consisting of p-MDBS, 3,4-DMDBS, 2,4,5-TMDBS, DBS, NA-11, NA-21, and any mixtures thereof.

9. (Original) The carpet of Claim 8 wherein said nucleating agent is p-MDBS.

10. (Currently Amended): A tufted carpet comprising at least a pile layer and at least one backing layer, said backing layer having improved shrinkage characteristics, wherein said at least one backing layer consists essentially of comprises a plurality of polypropylene tape fibers, wherein said at least one of said polypropylene tape fibers comprises about 10 ppm to about 800 ppm of a nucleator compound, and wherein said at least one polypropylene tape fiber exhibits an x-ray scattering pattern such that the center of the scattering peak is at about 0.4 degrees

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or lower; and wherein said polypropylene tape fibers exhibit a shrinkage rate after exposure to 150°C hot air of less than about 2%.

11. (Previously Presented) The carpet of Claim 10 wherein said nucleating agent is selected from the group consisting of p-MDBS, 3,4-DMDBS, 2,4,5-TMDBS, DBS, NA-11, NA-21, and any mixtures thereof.

12. (Original) The carpet of Claim 11 wherein said nucleating agent is p-MDBS.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

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